

CHILD SUPPORT

Title IV-D (Child Support and Establishment of Paternity) of the Federal Social Security Act, enacted in 1975, required that a Child Support Program be established in every state that chose to participate in the IV-A programs. The Child Support Program became effective in Indiana on July 1, 1976 under the provisions of IC 12-1-6.1. The Indiana Child Support Program is administered by the Child Support Bureau of the Indiana Division of Family and Children within FSSA.

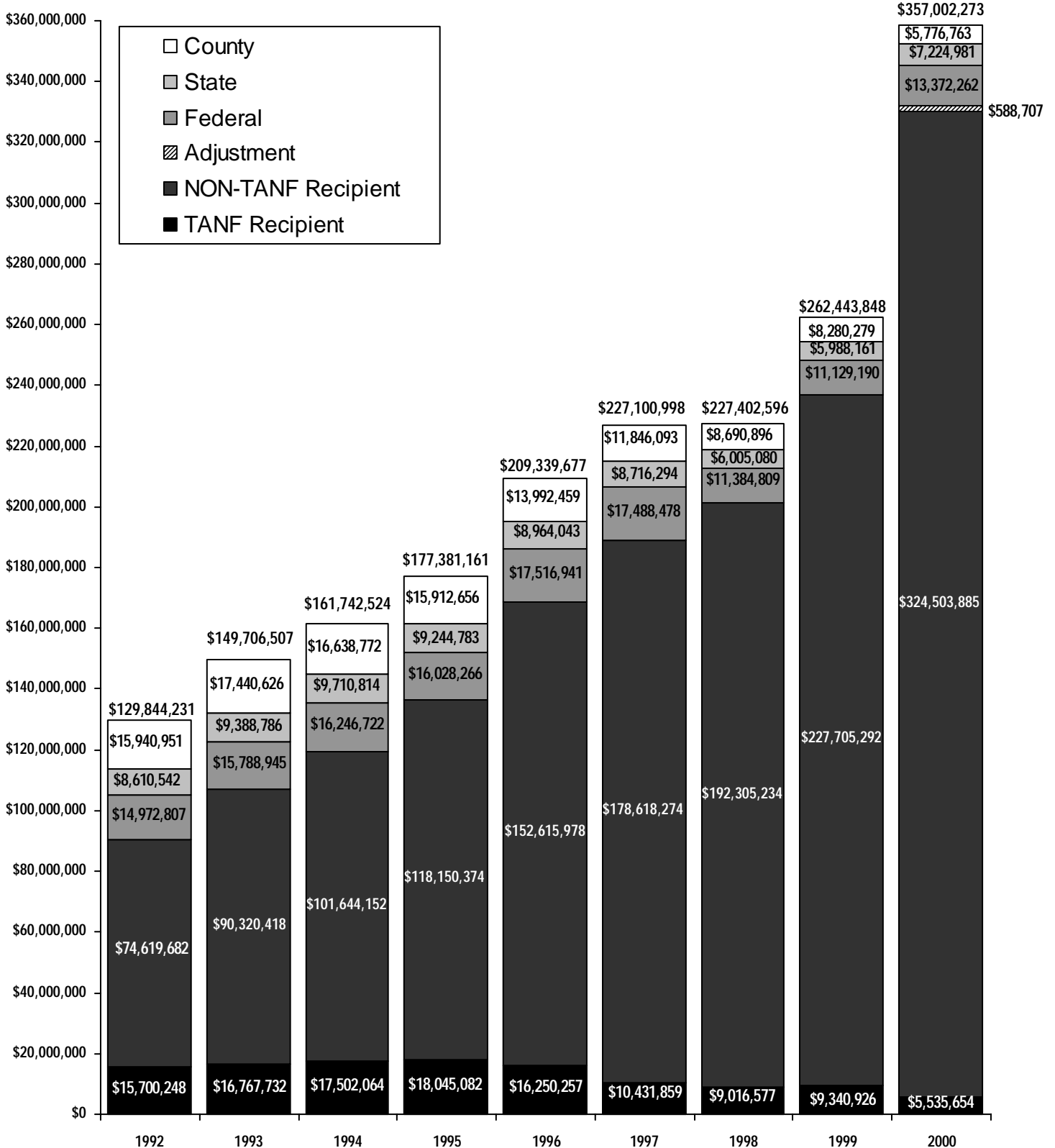
- The purposes of the program are to provide these services: establishment of paternity, establishment of support orders, enforcement of existing support orders, and location of absent parents. In Indiana, the Child Support Bureau enters into cooperative agreements with the prosecutors in all counties to provide child support enforcement services. The Bureau also enters into cooperative agreements with the clerks of the Circuit Courts in all counties for the collection of support payments. The Bureau also has entered into cooperative agreements with several courts to set up special hearing officers specifically to adjudicate Title IV-D cases.
- The Child Support Program has several tools available to enforce child support obligations. These tools include:
 - income withholding,
 - liens of property,
 - interception of income tax refunds (state and federal),
 - interception of unemployment compensation benefits,
 - interception of lottery winnings,
 - credit bureau reporting,
 - drivers and professional, and recreational license suspension,
 - financial institution data cross matching,
 - new hire reporting, and
 - computer automation of its operations, including interfaces with numerous other computer systems.
 - grant programs to help non-custodial parents become more emotionally and personally involved with their children
 - child support action plans in all 92 local offices aimed at improving communication with local child support offices, and improving service to the public

The impact of the Child Support Program collection efforts for the citizens of Indiana can be seen in the collection figures for the State Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2000. During this year the Child Support Bureau collected \$357,002,273. During the first year of operation, the Bureau collected \$5,700,000. These increased collections mean more Indiana children are receiving the child support they deserve and that fewer Indiana families will have to resort to public assistance to survive. The following graphs quantify some of these trends.

Indiana Family & Social Services Administration

Disbursement Of Child Support Collected For State Fiscal Years 1992 - 2000

Dollars

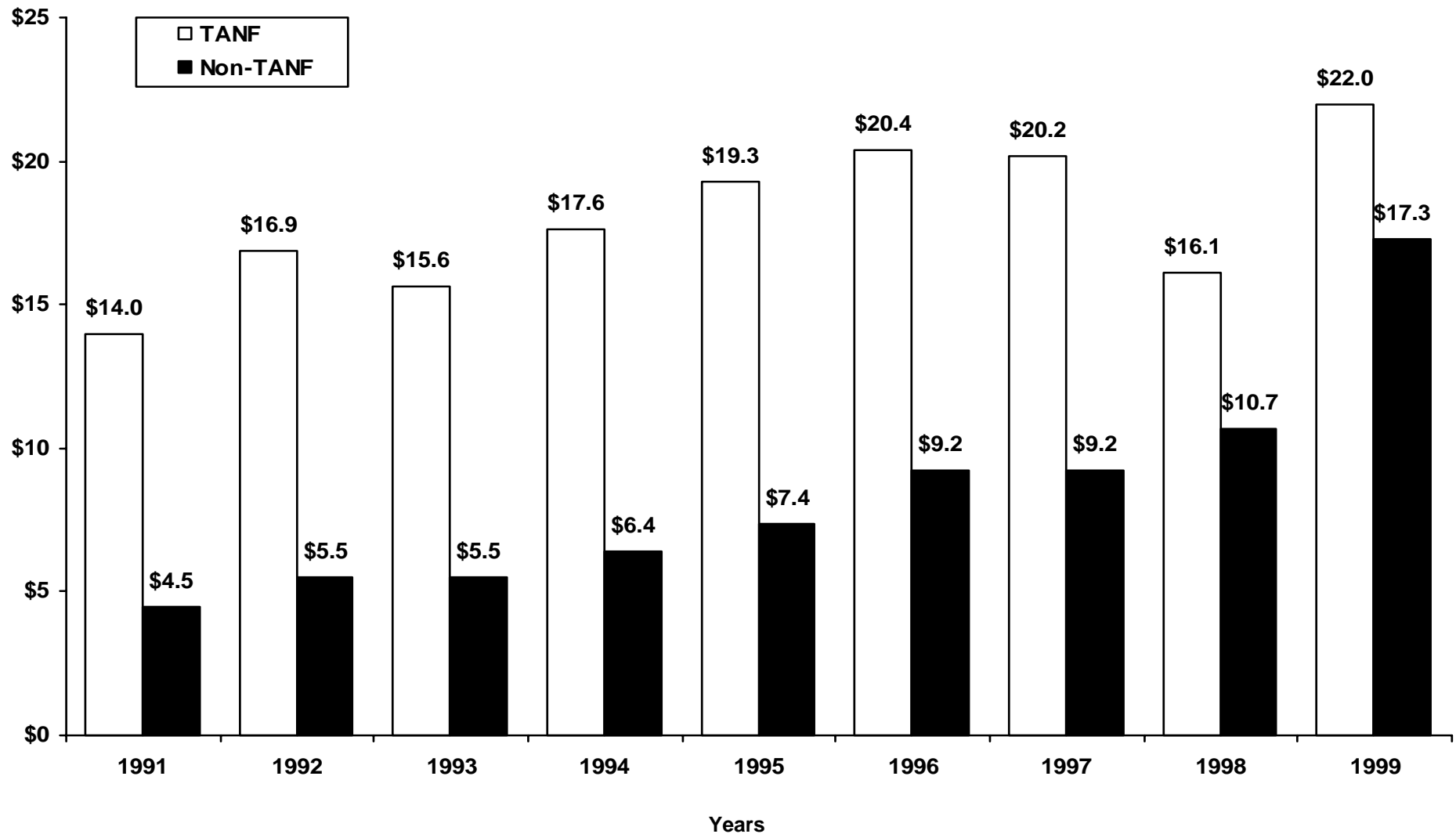


State Fiscal Years

Indiana Family & Social Services Administration

Child Support Collections From Tax Intercept (TANF & Non-TANF) Calendar Years 1991 - 1999

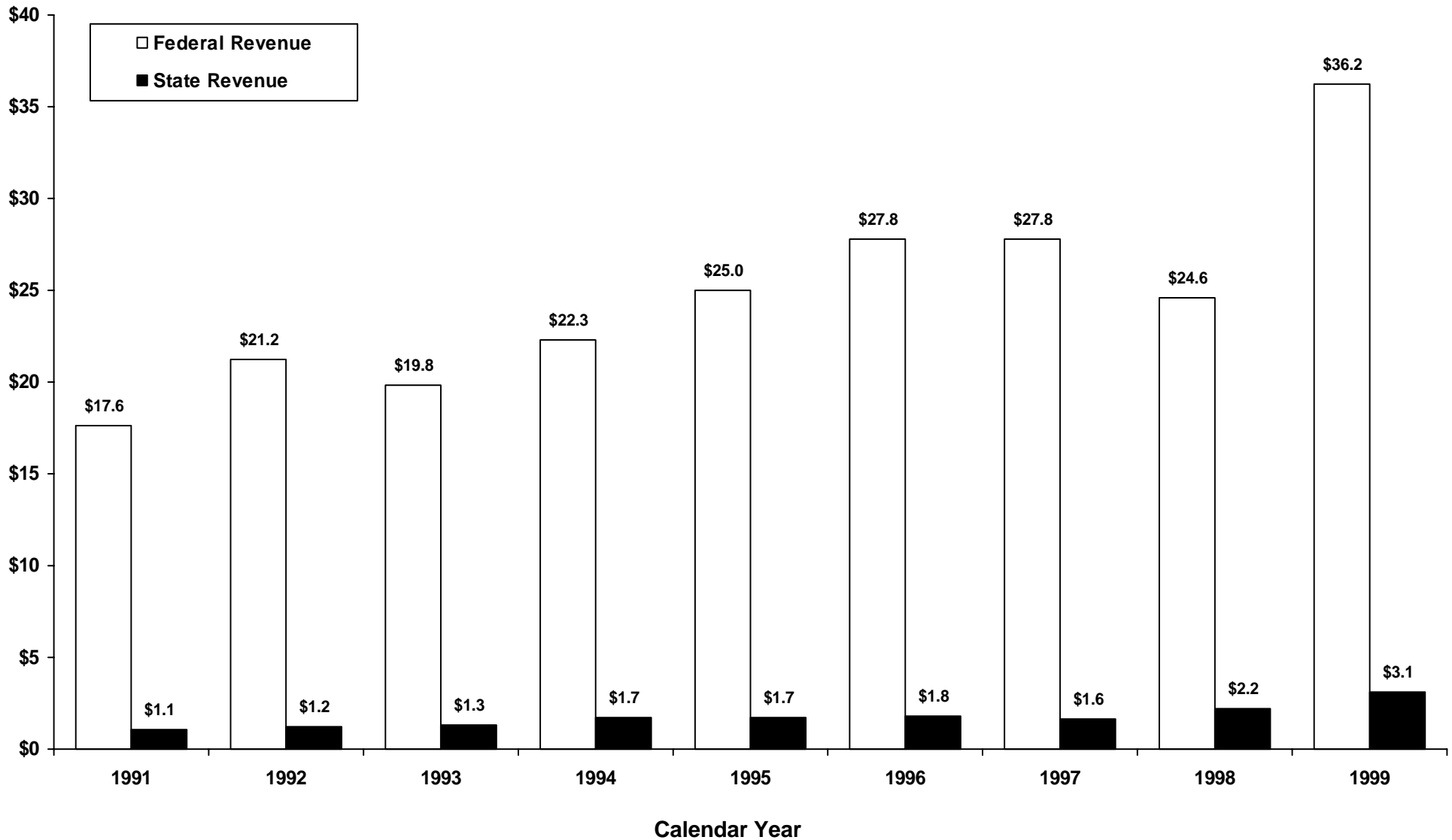
Millions Of Dollars



Indiana Family & Social Services Administration

Child Support Collections From Tax Intercept, Federal & State Revenue Calendar Years 1991 - 1999

Millions Of Dollars



APPENDIX

Enforcement Tools

(1) Child Support

The Family and Social Services Administration is implementing aggressive enforcement tools strategies to increase child support collections. Some enforcement tools available include interception of taxes, interception of liens, and credit bureau reporting. In state fiscal year 2000, the Child Support Bureau processed payments totaling \$357 million.